

# Far Eastern Entomologist

Дальневосточный энтомолог

Journal published by Far East Branch  
of the Russian Entomological Society  
and Laboratory of Entomology, Federal  
Scientific Center of the East Asia  
Terrestrial Biodiversity, Vladivostok

Number 401: 1-9

ISSN 1026-051X

February 2020

<https://doi.org/10.25221/fee.401.1>  
<http://zoobank.org/References/B48F9993-2A8E-4749-BCFD-C1211D0F4B47>

## REVISION OF THE GENERA *HETEROPTILON*, *NUGONIONEURA* AND *OPISTOCLADUS* FROM THE LOWER PERMIAN OF USA (INSECTA: CNEMIDOLESTIDA: TILLYARDEMBIIDAE, NUGONIONEURIDAE AND PARMAPTERIDAE)

D. S. Aristov<sup>1, 2)</sup>

1) Borissiak Paleontological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences,  
Profsoyuznaya str. 123, Moscow 117997, Russia. E-mail: danil\_aristov@mail.ru

2) Cherepovets State University, Lunacharsky prospect 5, Cherepovets 162600,  
Vologda region, Russia.

**Summary.** Holotypes of *Heteroptilon costale* Carpenter, 1976, *Nugonioneura problematica* Tillyard, 1937 and *Opistocladus arquatus* Carpenter, 1976 from Lower Permian Elmo locality in Kansas (USA) are redescribed. Family Heteroptiliidae is synonymized with Tillyardembidae; family Nugonioneuridae **nom. resurr.** is restored from synonyms of Tococladidae. Both families were attributed to the order Cnemidolestida. Monotypic genus *Opistocladus* Carpenter, 1976 is attributed to the family Parmapteridae (Cnemidolestida). Key to genera of Tillyardembidae is provided also.

**Key words:** Insecta, Cnemidolestida, taxonomy, Permian, North America.

**Д. С. Аристов. Ревизия родов *Heteroptilon*, *Nugonioneura* и *Opistocladus* из нижней перми США (Insecta: Снемидолестиды: Tillyardembidae, Nugonioneuridae и Parmapteridae) // Дальневосточный энтомолог. 2020. № 401. С. 1-9.**

**Резюме.** Переописаны голотипы *Heteroptilon costale* Carpenter, 1976, *Nugonioneura problematica* Tillyard, 1937 и *Opistocladus arquatus* Carpenter, 1976 из нижнепермского местонахождения Эльмо в Канзасе, США. Семейство Heteroptilidae сведено в синонимы к Tillyardembiidae, а семейство Nugonioneuridae восстановлено из синонимов семейства Tococladidae. Оба семейства отнесены к отряду Cnemidolestida. Род *Opistocladus* Carpenter, 1976 в составе типового вида отнесен к семейству Parmapteridae (Cnemidolestida). Данна определительная таблица родов семейства Tillyardembiidae.

## INTRODUCTION

Monotypic families Heteroptilidae and Nugonioneuridae were described from Elmo locality (Leonardian Stage of Lower Permian, Kansas, USA) as representatives of the order Protorthoptera (Carpenter, 1976). Subsequently Heteroptilidae were retained within protorthopterans by the same author and Nugonioneuridae attributed to “Neoptera order uncertain” (Carpenter, 1992). Later, both families were synonymized with the family Tococladidae of the order Hypoperlida (Rasnitsyn, 2002). The type genera and species for both families (*Heteroptilon* Carpenter, 1976 and *Nugonioneura* Tillyard, 1937) are examined and redescribed below. Heteroptilidae is synonymized with Tillyardembiidae (Cnemidolestida). Nugonioneuridae is restored from synonymy and also transferred to the order Cnemidolestida. Genus *Opistocladus* Carpenter, 1976 originally was attributed to family Tococladidae of order Protorthoptera (Carpenter, 1976). Afterwards Tococladidae was considered as belonging to orders Protorthoptera (Carpenter, 1992), Hypoperlida (Rasnitsyn, 2002) or Archaeorthoptera (Béthoux & Nel, 2002). Herein the genus *Opistocladus* is transferred to the family Parmapteridae (Cnemidolestida).

## TAXONOMY

### Order Cnemidolestida Handlirsch, 1937

#### Suborder Cnemidolestina Handlirsch, 1937

##### Family Tillyardembiidae G. Zalessky, 1938

Tillyardembiidae G. Zalessky, 1938: 64 (type genus: *Tillyardembia* G. Zalessky, 1937); Sharov, 1962: 124; Rasnitsyn, 1980: 152; Carpenter, 1992: 123; Storozhenko, 1997: 8; 1998: 91; 2002: 279; Aristov & Rasnitsyn, 2009: 263; 2010: 17; 2012: 48; 2014: 411; Aristov, 2014: 20; Aristov, 2018: 1382.  
Permocapniidae Martynov, 1940: 20 (type genus: *Permocapnia* Martynov, 1940); synonymized by G. Zalessky, 1950: 41–60.  
Heteroptilidae Carpenter, 1976: 346 (type genus: *Heteroptilon* Carpenter, 1976); Carpenter, 1992: 126; **syn. n.**

Type genus: *Tillyardembia* G. Zalessky, 1937.

**EMENDED DIAGNOSIS.** Small and medium sized insects. SC ends in forking on C and RS. Starting in wings basal third, RS branching abundantly, with branches

occupy whole wing apex. M with prominent  $M_5$  or M merged with CuA on a short section near the base. M with few branches, not split into MA and MP, start branching past base of RS. CuA start branching in its distal third, forms posterior branching comb. Posterior branches of CuA are lacking. Anal area small, with two or three anal veins.

COMPARISON. The family is most similar to Emphylopteridae from Carboniferous of France, but differs in branching CuA. Emphylopteridae have simple CuA (Aristov, 2014).

COMPOSITION. Five genera: *Tillyardembia* G. Zalessky, 1937 from Chekarda, Barda, Kishert' (Russia: Perm Region; Lower Permian, Kungurian Stage), and Zalazna (Russia: Kirov Region; Upper Permian, Vyatkian Stage), *Heteroptilon* Carpenter, 1976 (USA: Kansas; Lower Permian, Leonardian Stage), *Kungurembia* Aristov, 2004 from Chekarda and Soyana (Russia: Arkhangelsk Region; Middle Permian, Kazanian Stage), *Kamamica* Aristov et Rasnitsyn, 2014 from Tyul'kino (Russia: Perm Region; Lower Permian, Kungurian Stage), *Paralongzhua* Prokop, Szwedo, Lapeyrie, Garrouste et Nel, 2015 from Lodève (France: Languedoc Region; Middle Permian, Salagou Formation), and *Udembia* Aristov, 2018 from Kostovaty (Russia: Udmurtia; Middle Permian, Urzhumian Stage).

NOTE. The genus *Paralongzhua* was described within Archaeorthoptera nec Panorthoptera as family undetermined taxon (Prokop *et al.*, 2015). Comparison with the rest of tillyardembiids shows attribution of *Paralongzhua* to this family (see key below).

#### Key to genera of the family Tillyardembiidae based on forewing characters

- 1(6) Costal field near base of RS is equal in width with subcostal one.  
2(3) SC ends in wings distal third .....  
..... *Paralongzhua* Prokop, Szwedo, Lapeyrie, Garrouste et Nel, 2015  
3(2) SC ends near wings mid length.  
4(2) Preradial field narrow ..... *Udembia* Aristov, 2018  
5(7) Preradial field wide ..... *Heteroptilon* Carpenter, 1976  
6(1) Costal field near base of RS wider than subcostal one.  
7(10) Forewing with costal fan at the base of subcostal field.  
8(9) Base of M not merged with CuA, M and CuA connected with short  $M_5$  .....  
..... *Tillyardembia* G. Zalessky, 1937  
9(8) Base of M merged with CuA ..... *Kamamica* Aristov et Rasnitsyn, 2014  
10(7) Costal fan is lacking ..... *Kungurembia* Aristov, 2004

#### Genus *Heteroptilon* Carpenter, 1976

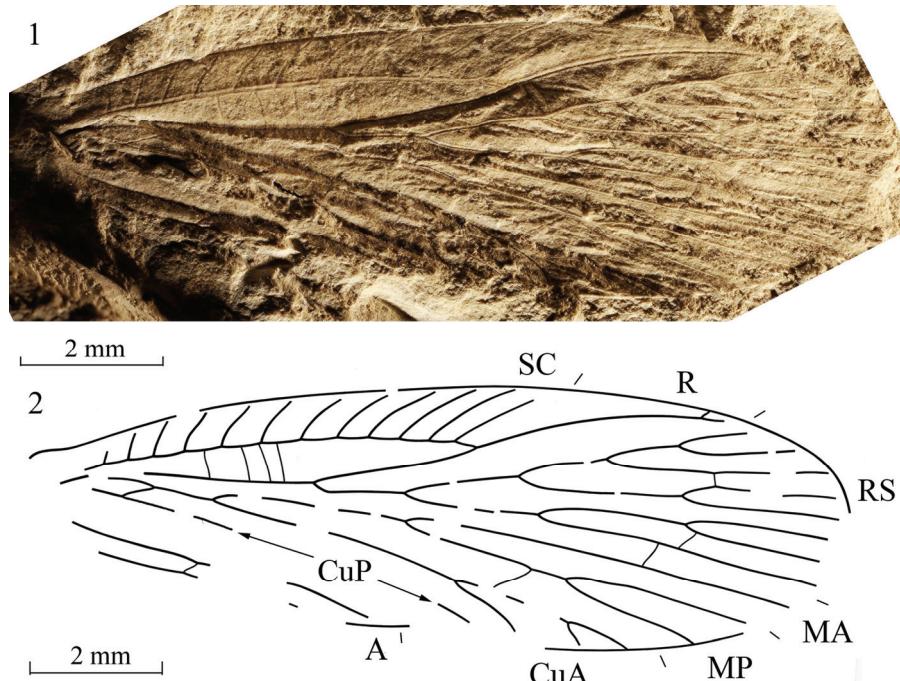
*Heteroptilon* Carpenter, 1976: 347; 1992: 126; Rasnitsyn, 2002: 112; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003: 278.

Type species: *Heteroptilon costale* Carpenter, 1976, by original designation.

DIAGNOSIS. Forewing with costal fan in the base of subcostal field. Preradial field near the base of RS is very wide. Costal field near the base of RS is equal in width to subcostal one. SC ends right past wings mid length. Apex of SC and base

of RS, which starts at the level of wings basal third, are drawn close. M merges with CuA near its base, M start branching at wings mid length. CuA branching at its apex, branching comb short.

SPECIES INCLUDED. Type species only.



Figs 1, 2. *Heteroptilon costale* Carpenter, 1976, forewing, holotype MCZ, № 5878.

NOTE. Family Heteroptilidae was erroneously synonimized under Tococladidae (Hypoperlida) by reason of similarity of the genera *Heteroptilon* and *Opistocladus* (Rasnitsyn, 2002). It was based mainly on RS drawn close to apex of SC, which ends in forking into C and R. This character is not unique for *Opistocladus* and is characteristic for many Cnemidolestidae (Cnemidolestida; see: Aristov, 2014). From Tococladidae *Heteroptilon* differs in anastomosis of M+CuA and lacking of posterior branches of CuA in intercubital field. In Tococladidae M and CuA are connected by M<sub>5</sub>, CuA with posterior branches in intercubital field (Carpenter, 1976; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003).

#### *Heteroptilon costale* Carpenter, 1976

Figs 1, 2

*Heteroptilon costale* Carpenter, 1976: 347, fig. 8; 1992: 126, fig. 73, 7; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003: 278.

MATERIAL. Holotype MCZ, № 5878, positive imprint of deformed forewing; United States, Kansas, Dickinson County, Banner Township, 5 km southeast of Elmo

town, Elmo locality; Lower Permian, Lower Leonardian, Sumner Group, Wellington Formation, Carlton Member; in MCZ.

REDESCRIPTION. Anterior margin of forewing is convex. Anterior branches of SC near wings mid length are numerous and long, strongly inclined anteriorly. RS branching early and abundantly, posteriorly subpectinate, with nine branches. Anterior branch of M simple, posterior with two apices. CuA with three branches. A<sub>1</sub> simple, A<sub>2</sub> bifurcated. Transverse veins simple, numerous in subcostal field.

MEASUREMENTS. Forewing length 15 mm.

#### **Family *Nugonioneuridae* Carpenter, 1976, nom. resurr.**

*Nugonioneuridae* Carpenter, 1976: 377 (type genus: *Nugonioneura* Tillyard, 1937); Rasnitsyn, 1980: 43; Carpenter, 1992: 500; synonymized under Tococladidae by Rasnitsyn (2002).

Type genus: *Nugonioneura* Tillyard, 1937.

DIAGNOSIS. Small insects. Forewings preradial field is moderately wide. SC ends in forking into C and R near wings mid length. RS starts at the wing's mid length, drawn near to SC apex, merged with MA, equal in size with CuA. Base of M at the short area merged with CuA, M starts branching at wings mid length. CuA without posterior branches, starts branching before its mid length. Apices of anal veins are not merging with each other.

COMPARISON. *Nugonioneura* is most similar to *Psoroptera* Carpenter, 1976 (Cnemidolestida: Psoropteridae) (Aristov, 2014) from the Permian locality Elmo in USA, it differs in SC, ends with forking into C and R, apex of SC drawn close to base of RS, which starts at wings mid length, lacking of anal loop. In Psoropteridae SC ends at C, apex of SC not drawn close with base of RS, which starts at wings basal quarter (Aristov, 2014).

GENERA INCLUDED. Type genus.

NOTE. Like *Heteroptilon*, *Nugonioneura* was attributed to hypoperlids Tococladidae (Rasnitsyn, 2002). *Heteroptilon* differs from the most similar genus *Opistocladus* in late branching of M, anastomosis of M and CuA bases and lacking of posterior branches of CuA. In Tococladidae M branching in wings basal third, M and CuA are connected by M<sub>5</sub>, CuA have posterior branches in intercubital field (Carpenter, 1976; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003).

#### **Genus *Nugonioneura* Tillyard, 1937**

*Nugonioneura* Tillyard, 1937: 92; Carpenter, 1976: 337; 1992: 337; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003: 278.

Type species: *Nugonioneura problematica* Tillyard, 1937, by original designation.

DIAGNOSIS. As for family because of monotypy.

SPECIES INCLUDED. Type species only.

***Nugonioneura problematica* Tillyard, 1937**

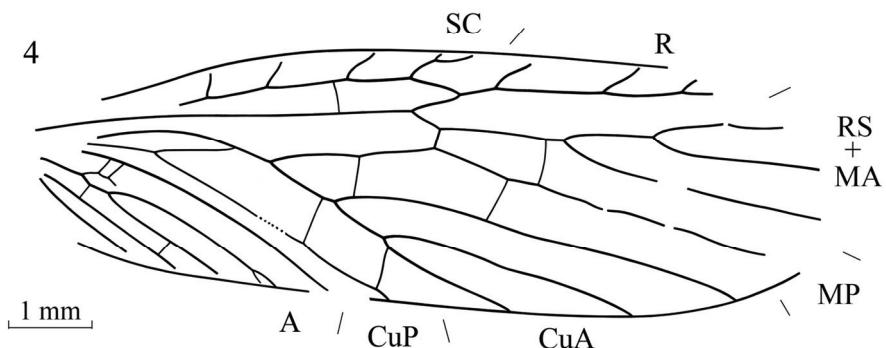
Figs 3, 4

*Nugonioneura problematica* Tillyard, 1937: 94, fig. 4; Carpenter, 1976: 337, figs 1-3; 1992: 500; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003: 278.

MATERIAL. Holotype MCZ, № 5895, positive imprint of forewing; United States, Kansas, Dickinson County, Banner Township, 5 km southeast of Elmo town, Elmo locality; Lower Permian, Lower Leonardian, Sumner Group, Wellington Formation, Carlton Member; in MCZ.

REDESCRIPTION. Small insects. Anterior margin of forewing is convex. Costal field in wings basal third equal to subcostal one in width. SC curved parallel to wings anterior margin. SC and R with sparse simple or Y-shaped anterior branches. RS+MA with three branches, MP simple. CuA anteriorly pectinate with three long branches. Intercubital field wide, A<sub>1</sub> simple, A<sub>2</sub> with four branches. Transverse veins simple.

MEASUREMENTS. Forewing length 10 mm.



Figs 3, 4. *Nugonioneura problematica* Tillyard, 1937, forewing, holotype MCZ, № 5895.

## **Family *Parmapteridae* Aristov et Rasnitsyn, 2015**

### **Genus *Opistocladus* Carpenter, 1976**

*Opistocladus* Carpenter, 1976: 342; 1992: 126; Rasnitsyn, 2002, 112; Béthoux & Nel, 2002: 25; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003: 277; Rasnitsyn & Aristov, 2013: 686; 2015: 19.

Type species: *Opistocladus arquatus* Carpenter, 1976, by original designation.

**DIAGNOSIS.** Forewing with prominent ScA, reaching wing basal third, precostal field narrow. ScP ends at R. Costal field at base of RS equal in width to subcostal one. RS with few branches, starts at wings mid length, its base lies close to apex of ScP. M with prominent  $M_5$ , divided into branches at wings mid length, MA and RS with fissures, where they are connected by transverse vein.  $M_5$  goes into CuA after its first divide into branches. Posterior branch of CuA with fissures where transverse veins merges with it. Anal area modified into clavus.

**COMPARISON.** *Opistocladus* is most similar to genus *Parmaptera* Aristov et Rasnitsyn, 2015 from Lower Permian locality Chekarda in Russia (Kungurian Stage, Perm Region) but differs in narrow costal field, fewer number of RS branches and  $M_5$ , merges into CuA after its first branching. In *Parmaptera* costal field at base of RS four times wider than subcostal one, RS subpectinate, with five or more branches,  $M_5$  merges into CuA after its second branching. CuP curved at its base. Anal area not modified into clavus (Aristov & Rasnitsyn, 2015). Lacking of precostal field on holotype of *P. permiana* is a result of preservation; perpendicular anterior branches at the SC base usually merge with SC and ScA.

**SPECIES INCLUDED.** Type species only.

**NOTE.** The taxonomic position of *Opistocladus strictus* Carpenter, 1976 from Elmo (Carpenter, 1976) and *O. kargalensis* Rasnitsyn et Aristov, 2013 from Kargala locality (Russia: Orenburg Region, Middle Permian, Urzhumanian Stage (Carpenter, 1976; Rasnitsyn & Aristov, 2013) are not certain because of these taxa considerably differs from *O. arquatus* and probably belong to the family Tococladidae.

### ***Opistocladus arquatus* Carpenter, 1976**

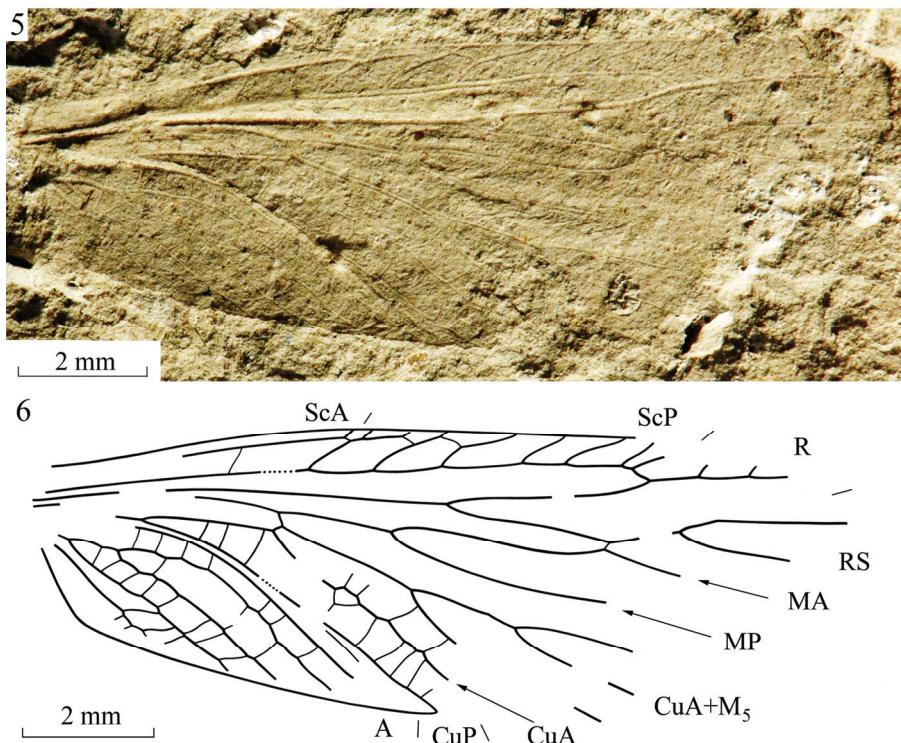
Figs 5, 6

*Opistocladus arquatus* Carpenter, 1976: 342, fig. 4; 1992: 126; Béthoux & Nel, 2002: 25; Béthoux *et al.*, 2003: 278.

**MATERIAL.** Holotype MCZ, № 5882, positive and negative imprints of forewing; United States, Kansas, Dickinson County, Banner Township, 5 km southeast of Elmo town, Elmo locality; Lower Permian, Lower Leonardian, Sumner Group, Wellington Formation, Carlton Member; in MCZ.

**REDESCRIPTION.** Anterior branches of ScA sparse. RS with 2-3 branches. MA and MP are simple prior to wings distal third. CuA+ $M_5$  with three or more branches, posterior branch of CuA simple.  $A_1$  with three branches,  $A_2$  simple or with two branches. Transverse veins simple.

**MEASUREMENTS.** Forewing length about 15 mm.



Figs 5, 6. *Opistocladus arquatus* Carpenter, 1976, forewing, holotype MCZ, № 5882.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to A.P. Rasnitsyn (PIN, Moscow) for the photographs of the type material and for useful comments. This study was supported by the Program of the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences “Problems of the Origin of Life and Formation of the Biosphere” and by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (project No 18-04-00322).

#### REFERENCES

Aristov, D.S. 2014. Classification of the order Cnemidolestida (Insecta; Perlidea) with description of new taxa. *Far Eastern Entomologist*, 277: 1–46.

Aristov, D.S. 2018. New and Little Known Cnemidolestid Insects (Insecta: Cnemidolestida) from the Middle Permian–Middle Triassic of Eurasia. *Paleontological Journal*, 52(12): 1381–1390.

Aristov, D.S. & Rasnitsyn, A.P. 2009. The family Tillyardembiiidae Zalessky, 1938 and the system of the plecopteroid insects. *Russian Entomological Journal*, 18(3): 257–264.

Aristov, D.S. & Rasnitsyn, A.P. 2010. New Eoblattida from the Permian of Russia. *Russian Entomological Journal*, 19(1): 13–20.

Aristov, D.S. & Rasnitsyn, A.P. 2012. Revision of the Family Idelinellidae, with a review of the Permian Eoblattida (Insecta). *Paleontological Journal*, 46(1): 49–60.

Aristov, D.S. & Rasnitsyn, A.P. 2014. New Eoblattida from the Permian of Russia and USA and origin of earwigs (Insecta: Eoblattida, Forficulida). *Paleontological Journal*, 48(4): 407–413.

Béthoux, O. & Nel, A. 2002. Venation pattern and revision of Orthoptera *sensu nov.* and sister groups. Phylogeny of Palaeozoic and Mesozoic Orthoptera *sensu nov.* *Zootaxa*, 96: 1–88.

Béthoux, O., Nel, A., Galtier, J., Lapeyrie, J. & Gand, G. 2003. A new species of Tococladidae Carpenter, 1966 from the Permian of France (Insecta: Archaeorthoptera). *Geobios*, 36: 275–283.

Carpenter, F.M. 1976. The Lower Permian insects of Kansas: Part 12. Protorthoptera (continued), Neuroptera, Additional Palaeodictyoptera & Families of Uncertain Position. *Psyche*, 83: 336–376.

Carpenter, F.M. 1992. *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology. Part R. Arthropoda 4. Vol. 3: Superclass Hexapoda*. Boulder, Colorado and Lawrence Publishers, Kansas. 655 pp.

Martynov, A.V. 1940. Permian fossil insects of Tshekarda. *Trudy Paleontologicheskogo Instituta AN SSSR*, 11(1): 5–62. [In Russian]

Prokop, J., Szwedo, J., Lapeyrie, J., Garrouste, R. & Nel, A. 2015. New Middle Permian insects from Salagou Formation of the Lodeve Basin in southern France (Insecta: Pterygota). *Annales de la Societe Entomologique de France*, 51(1): 14–51.

Rasnitsyn, A.P. 1980. Infraclass Gryllones Laicharting, 1781. In: Rohdendorf, B.B. & Rasnitsyn, A.P. (Eds.) Historical Development of the Class Insecta. *Trudy Paleontologicheskogo Instituta AN SSSR*, 178: 134–135. [In Russian]

Rasnitsyn, A.P. 2002. Superorder Hypoperlidea Martynov, 1928. Order Hypoperlida Martynov, 1928. P. 111–115. In: Rasnitsyn, A.P. & Quicke, D.L.Q. (Eds.) *History of Insects*. Dordrecht, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht.

Rasnitsyn, A.P. & Aristov, D.S. 2013. New fossil insects (Insecta: Caloneurida, Hypoperlida, Palaeomanteida, Jurinida) from the Middle and Upper Permian of European Russia. *Paleontological Journal*, 47(7): 678–704.

Sharov, A.G. 1962. Order Paraplectoptera. P. 119–134. In: Rohdendorf, B.B. (Ed.). *Fundamentals of Paleontology: Arthropods, Tracheates, and Chelicerae*. AN SSSR Publ., Moscow. 560 pp. [In Russian]

Storozhenko, S.Yu. 1997. Classification of order Grylloblattida (Insecta) with description of new taxa. *Far Eastern Entomologist*, 42: 1–20.

Storozhenko, S.Yu. 1998. *Systematics, phylogeny and evolution of the grylloblattids (Insecta: Grylloblattida)*. Dalnauka, Vladivostok. 207 pp. [In Russian]

Storozhenko, S.Yu. 2002. Order Grylloblattida Walker, 1914 (= Notoptera Crampton, 1915, = Grylloblattodea Brus et Melander, 1932, + Protorthoptera Handlirsch, 1906, = Paraplectoptera Martynov, 1925, + Protoperlaria Tillyard, 1928). P. 278–281. In: Rasnitsyn, A.P. & Quicke, D.L.J. (Eds.). *History of insects*. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht.

Tillyard, R.J. 1937. Kansas Permian Insects, part 17: the order Megasecoptera and additions to the Palaeodictyoptera, Odonata, Protoperlaria, Copeognatha, and Neuroptera. *American Journal of Science*, 533(194): 81–110.

Zalessky, G.M. 1938. Les nouveaux insectes permiens de l'ordre Emboidea. *Annales de la Société Géologique du Nord*, 63: 62–81.

Zalessky, G.M. 1950. Permian insects of the Sylva River basin and problems of evolution in the class Insecta. IV. New representatives of the group Epiembioidea and the webspinner evolution. *Problemy paleontologii*, 1: 41–60. [In Russian]